

PHENOMENA

The Official UPIA & MAPIT Update

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IN THE PRESS

MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

BRIDESTONES REVISITED

LATEST INVESTIGATIONS

UFOs Over Manchester City Center

UFOs & Rock - An Interview with CEIV



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UFO's & Rock

An interview with Scottish rock band CEIV
By Philip Mantle.

In 2007 I obtained an interview with American UFO rock band Element 115. I met one of the band members in Roswell in at the 60th anniversary events where they were playing live. But long before there was Element 115 there was the British equivalent and that being CEIV from Scotland. I must admit I've had the pleasure of sharing the stage with CEIV and seen them playing live. So, not to be out done by the Americans I recently caught up with Brian McMullen (senior), the founder of CEIV.



PM: Brian, when did you first become interested in UFO's ?

BM: I'm sure my first interest in the possibility that alien life exists dates back to the TV Sci- Fi weekly 'Quatermass and the Pit'. I was about eight or nine years old and most of the time I was hiding behind the couch. The storyline was believable and the music extremely scary. I must have guessed then how important music was in creating an atmosphere for a particular film. I was always interested in astronomy from an early age and soon got to know about the constellations and where to find them in the night sky. Over the years I got used to viewing various aircraft, satellites, etc and more recently, spotting the space lab/station. I fully understood the abundance and pollution of man made objects in the night sky but nevertheless still noted that there were strange objects up there performing even stranger manoeuvres. During the early 70s I began to hunt the night sky for these objects and admittedly lost a bit of interest in astronomy itself. I began to take note of newspaper reports on UFOs and I read a couple of books on the subject. I was wondering if others were seeing what I was seeing and I was surprised to learn that many were viewing similar objects and these sightings were worldwide.

I became even more convinced when hearing of a report of an incident in the grounds of a local hospital. Two witnesses viewed a craft above the hospital theatres and movement on the ground nearby. More details regarding this case will be made available on our website soon. That winter I became very interested in the possibility of the existence of UFOs and the realisation that they were not just small objects in the distant night sky. I was now hooked on the probability that these objects were a reality and were on the Earth.



PM: Not only are you interested in UFO's but I believe you've also had your own sighting, could you tell us a bit more about that ?

BM: Our big sighting was definitely July 1985. It was a warm summer evening and we were leaving a band member's house. We had phoned a taxi and as it would take a half hour or so, we decided to do a bit of sky watching in his back garden.

The sighting began with a small fuzzy amber coloured ball, not much brighter than a normal star, nevertheless it was very obvious. Three of us watched as the amber ball got bigger and closer to our position. We were at a high point in the north of Glasgow and could view the city lights and main buildings below us to the south. The fuzzy ball was now becoming a distinct saucer shape. It was getting lower as it passed over us heading south across the city. We used binoculars as we traced its flight. "Unbelievable", "fabulous", "fantastic" were some of the words I could hear in the background. The motion was slow skipping as it moved along its trajectory; we could see the underside then the topside. This must have lasted 20 to 30 seconds. The amber colour was beautiful and reminded me of a hot poker cooling as it is pulled from a fire. Another band member said he thought it was transparent. We traced its path as far as we could and later estimated that it would have been close to the ground near the Fenwick Moor, about 20 miles south of Glasgow.

The hours and hours we had spent sky watching had paid off at last, strangely enough while simply waiting for a taxi. We will never forget this sighting. The binoculars had taken us within metres of this unmistakable, unforgettable object. The full story of this experience will be posted on our website soon.

PM: So when was CEIV formed ?

BM: C E IV was formed in the cold winter months of 83/84. In the late 70s and early 80s I would watch the night skies as often as possible. My son Brian would join me and became interested in astronomy and also the strange objects that appeared from time to time. In 1983 Brian jnr joined the school band choosing the drums as his instrument. He enjoyed this, took it quite serious and soon became proficient.

During the autumn of 83, my nephew and a friend of his wanted to start a rock band. He played the bass and his friend played keyboards. Since I had been in a band in the 60s they asked could I help out. I thought this funny as the age difference was quite a bit, but they convinced me I should join. I agreed but would only help out on practice nights. I soon realised it was handy being older than them as I could 'sign the papers' for council officials to allow us to use an old school for practice. They agreed we could use the gym hall but the sound was terrible so we got to know the two watchmen and via a bottle of 'Grouse' we ended up in the headmaster's room, radiators, carpets the lot. Brian jnr had an old suitcase full of drum parts (a snare drum, hi-hats, etc), the suitcase itself being used as the bass drum. Everyone had a basic understanding of their instrument and we were soon belting out some cover versions of songs by The Stranglers and Gary Numan.



My nephew was also into the UFO mystery and on practice nights we would often discuss cases. We all agreed we should attempt to write our own songs and I think 'Starship Scrapyard' was the first around winter 83. Eventually we got five songs of our own and two cover versions. Interest was high for the UFO subject within the band and our songs began to reflect this. The band name would be C E IV after Alan Hynek's categorisation of UFO incidents. New equipment was purchased and the set was polished up at pro rehearsal studios. They convinced me to stay in the band and we got our first gig at the 'Star Rock Club' Glasgow in June 84. We completed four gigs in Glasgow before heading to Warminster for a week's holiday in September of that year, all due of course to the contents of Arthur's book 'UFO Magic in Motion'. The skies were clear most of the time and we put in quite a bit of sky watching. We stayed at 'The Old Cheese House' cottage in Upton Lovell and played the odd game of darts in the local. It was well worth the visit.

PM: Are all your songs UFO inspired or UFO related ?

BM: Apart from 'The Witch' all of the songs are related in some way to UFOs. They are written with particular cases and witnesses' experiences in mind. We meet now and again with various witnesses and get a real feel for what they are saying. On one occasion a top record company manager told us 'If we did something other than that UFO stuff we might get somewhere'! The man obviously didn't know us. It didn't warrant a reply. We love the mystery of UFOs, meeting the witnesses, sky watching, attending conferences and best of all relating it all through our music.

PM: What has been the reaction to your music from the UFO community ?

BM: We have received a good reaction from some of the world's top UFO researchers and many have become close friends with the band and their families. We got some great reviews over the years from within the UFO fraternity. I think anyone who knows us realises we are serious and it's simply our way of highlighting this fantastic subject. We have some great memories meeting up at conferences and visiting our friends within Ufology. It's usually during these visits that we also get to meet speakers on close terms and this opens up a whole new world for us. I will take this opportunity to say thanks on behalf of all here at C E IV, to all the researchers worldwide who understand what we are all about and especially during our early years a special thanks to Jenny Randles, Malcolm Robinson and of course yourself Phil.

PM: What has been the reaction from other musicians to your music ?

BM: We have lots of friends who are musicians. We got to know some of them when we had our own rehearsal studio in Glasgow; others are old friends from back in the beginning, or bands we performed alongside at various venues. Although not necessarily into UFOs they certainly appreciate what we are doing and enjoy the music. When we perform in the Glasgow area you will see them in the crowd. We attend their gigs when possible. One or two have made it to the top and all the best to them!

PM: Are any of your songs based on specific UFO events ?



BM: Most of the songs we write are based on events within Ufology. Some are obvious like 'Warminster Night' others are written through influences like 'Without Consent' after reading the book by Carl Nagaitis and Philip Mantle. Another example would be 'They Don't Believe You' - this was aimed at the true witness who finds it difficult to be taken seriously. 'C E IV' is more or less talking about what we are doing and 'New Gods' is hitting at a possible reason why we are being visited by extraterrestrials. 'MIB Men' speaks for itself and 'Down on the Outside' is you and me and all who are bewitched by the UFO mystery.

PM: A question I'm sure you've been asked before but do you have a favourite out of all of those you've written ?

BM: It's a tough question. A quick answer would have to be 'Small Town'. I enjoyed doing the lyrics for this one, like a 50s Sci-Fi movie in song, if you see what I mean!

PM: Do CEIV have any new material in the pipeline ?

BM: We have loads of new material; it usually lies dormant scribbled in notebooks etc. Ideas are always coming in and sometimes we roughly record what we would consider 'interesting'. I write via the guitar and Brian jnr prefers using the keyboard, we share the lyrics. Problem is with us not being fully professional we have to put the band on the back burner now and then. 'Gabriel's View' is an example of this. The storyline is fantastic and was born out of a visit to NW Scotland. Arrangements and recording have started though and we are happy with results. Sorry to our fans for the delay but I'm positive this will be well worth the wait. We are critical of our work and more so with this one!

PM: Is there any chance of seeing CEIV performing live again ?

BM: Performing live is where the buzz is, any band will tell you this. Just recently we have had a new lease of life. This came about due to me logging all the bands material collected over the years, travels, letters, fan mail, photographs, etc. Even Gabriel and Brutus (alien mannequins) are getting a dust down. Brian jnr is working at the new website and in between we are both pushing the recording of 'Gabriel's View' but performing live is always on our minds.

The Glasgow gig scene is quite good right now but the venues tend to be quite small with some pushing for folk and acoustic nights. The medium to large rock venues would obviously be more suitable for a C E IV performance as we have a fair amount of equipment and prefer a bigger stage, plus of course Gabriel and Brutus take up room as they help with the visuals promoting what we are all about! And of course the fans love them! We have agreed though that spring 09 sounds about right. Various leaflets are also handed out at our gigs and are another way of promoting interest in Ufology. We have performed at various UFO conferences over the years and will be happy to continue to do so!

PM: If anyone is interested in getting hold of copies of your CD's how can they do that ?

BM: To purchase any of our music visit our website at: www.ceiv.co.uk – where you can also have a listen. All our material is available to buy on CD, or as high quality MP3 digital downloads through a secure PayPal ordering facility. Alternatively, contact us by e-mail for other ordering and payment methods.

Thanks Phil and all the best from CEIV.

UFO Over Manchester City Center?



The above photograph was sent into us by a professional photographer who works for the Manchester Evening News and was taking photographs of well known buildings throughout Manchester. As snapping the Manchester Central Library at 25,000 frames per second. He noticed something odd in the exposure. In the top left corner of the photo there looks to be something strange in the sky. Those who have looked at the photo describe the strange object as cone shaped and what looks to be two engines that seem to leave a tale of light

through the sky. Some have even stated that the strange object is at an unusual angle. Investigators have suggested everything from a hair near the lens, ball lightning, a normal civilian aircraft, a bird, lasers, missile and so on and so on... The photograph has been looked at professionally and no explanation has been found. If it is an unusual aircraft, it is not recognised by aircraft recognition experts. Could it be some type of experimental aircraft? What ever it is, it leaves a tail at 25,000 per second. Therefore, to do so, how fast must it be going? The mystery thickens...





Pareidolia.

The Word Pareidolia comes from the Greek 'Para' – beside, with or alongside, and 'eidōs' meaning image, form or shape. Pareidolia is the term used to describe the psychological phenomena involving a vague and random stimulus, typically a sound or image, being perceived as significant. Pareidolia is a type of Apophenia – a term coined in 1958 by Klaus Conrad, who defined Apophenia as

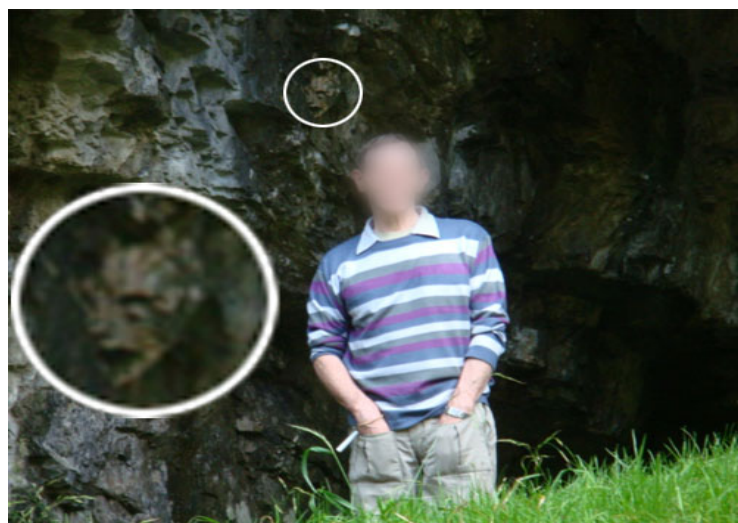
'Unmotivated seeing of connections accompanied by a specific experience of an abnormal meaningfulness'. Simulacra, (from the Latin Simulacrum which means 'Likeness, similarity') is the term used to describe 'A representation of another thing, such as a statue or painting, esp. of a god' and therefore refers to an object or likeness that has been deliberately created to resemble something else. Pareidolia include EVP or electronic voice phenomena. In 1971, Klaus Raudive wrote 'Breakthrough', detailing the discovery of EVP, which is described as auditory Pareidolia, as indeed is 'backmasking' in popular music. Typical examples of visual Pareidolia include 'seeing' the shapes of animals in clouds and faces in orbs and other random objects. Carl Sagan hypothesized that humans have the ability to identify the human face from birth, and there is evidence to suggest an innate tendency to pay attention to faces from infancy and by two months of age the child's face perception skills have developed to such a degree that specific areas of the brain, namely the fusiform gyri and lesser temporal gyri are activated by viewing faces. The face is an important site for the identification of others and conveys significant social information, such as moods etc. which suggests our ability to recognize faces from such a young age is part of our fight or flight system. This 'Hard-Wired' ability allows us to use basic details to recognize faces from a distance and in poor visibility, but can also lead us to misinterpret random images or patterns of light and shade as faces. A common theme of Pareidolia is the perception of iconic religious imagery in ordinary objects, most commonly the image of Jesus, The Virgin Mary and the word 'Allah', although the simplicity of letter forms in the Arabic alphabet, and the flexibility in Islamic calligraphy (and the particular shape of the word Allah') make it easy to read into many formations of parallel lines and lobes on a common base. Examples of Religious Imagery in common objects are:

In September, 2007, the so-called "monkey tree phenomenon" caused a minor social mania in Singapore. A callus on a tree there resembles a monkey, and believers have flocked to the tree to pay homage to the Monkey God. In late 1996, the glass facade of a finance building in Florida attracted widespread media attention. The image was composed of flowing lines that suggested the veiled head and shoulders of a faceless woman.

The image was believed by the faithful to depict the Virgin Mary. It was iridescent and had "rainbow colors". The image drew an estimated one million visitors over the next several years. The building was purchased by Shepherds of Christ Ministries, an Ohio-based Catholic revivalism group. The building was dubbed the Virgin Mary Building. On March 1, 2004, the three uppermost panes of the window were broken by a vandal. The windows were replaced with a picture of Jesus Christ. A local chemist, Charles Roberts, had examined the original windows and explained that the iridescent stain had been produced by water deposits combined with weathering, yielding a chemical reaction like that often seen on old bottles.

Roberts said that it was likely that the water sprinkler was the cause of it. The Building also had a large number of different bible scenes from the nativity on the windows wrapping around the side of it. These images, however, were artificially created. The face of Mother Teresa was seen in a cinnamon bun at Bongo Java in Nashville, Tennessee It was first discovered on 15 October 1996 by employee Ryan Finney and was turned into an enterprise by the company, selling T-shirts and mugs. Mother Teresa contacted the company and asked them to stop these sales. Discussions between the cafe owner and Mother Teresa's attorney brought about a compromise. The cafe agreed to only sell a limited amount NunBun merchandise and sell it only at their store and not license the images. The bun remained as an attraction at Bongo Java. On 25 December 2005 the bun was stolen during a break-in at the coffee house.

The owner of Bongo Java has offered a \$5,000 reward for the return of the NunBun. Recently, photographs of the pastry have been sent to the Nashville, TN newspaper The Tennessean from a person identifying themselves as "Hu Dunet." It shows the NunBun near a statue of a woman, a picture showing it being held by two men, their faces obscured by alterations to the photograph, and a picture of a man lying on a beach holding the bun in his left hand On November 23, 2004, a grilled cheese sandwich that contained the likeness of the Virgin Mary was sold for \$28,000 in an eBay auction by Diana Duyser from Hollywood, Florida. Duyser explained, "I made this sandwich 10 years ago. When I took a bite out of it, I saw a face looking up at me - it was Virgin Mary staring back at me. I was in total shock." She kept the toast surrounded by cotton wool, in a plastic container on a stand. Duyser claimed that although a decade old, the toast has not shown any sign of mold or crumbling, which she considered as "a miracle". She also believed its mystical properties have brought her blessings, including a \$70,000 win in a nearby casino. The sandwich was purchased by the online casino, GoldenPalace.com, which is known for its publicity stunts. The company said that they planned to undertake a world tour with the sandwich and then sell it, with proceeds going to charity. The pan that was used to make the sandwich was also sold on eBay.



In November 2005, Julio Radillo, a Laredo, Texas man discovered a portrait of Jesus in the dirt on his truck's tailgate. At least 150 people have made a pilgrimage to visit the truck to light candles, to take video or pictures and to pray. Radillo said he wasn't going to drive this truck for a while. And when he did, he would remove the tailgate as a memento. He said the image of Christ appeared as reminder to people to strengthen their faith...

Dozens report seeing UFOs over Merseyside

Published: 11:57AM BST 27 May 2009

The Telegraph.

They claimed to have seen glowing orange lights moving slowly across the sky between 10.30pm and 11pm on Sunday evening. Sightings were reported from Southport to South Liverpool, and at spots including Ainsdale, Garston and Mossley Hill.

All had seen up to four glowing, orange-red balls hovering in the sky some time between 10.30pm and 11pm. An air traffic control source said similar lights had been witnessed previously in the north west - but had failed to appear on radar.



Jackie Hardaker, of Mossley Hill, said: "They were like red balls, they looked like fire and when planes went past they just dimmed. "They went past the window and just faded. When I looked out again one went across Rose Lane and dropped something that looked like fire.

"It was so interesting to watch them but at the time it totally freaked me out." Other callers also reported an object dropping from one of the lights, describing it "as if a plastic bag was on fire".

Phil Daley also saw something similar from Allerton Road at the same time. "They appeared similar to stars, but were much brighter," he said,

"As they passed over us, each light appeared to be made up of either two or three smaller lights. "I initially assumed they must be satellites since their arc suggested an orbit, but I was surprised at the speed and pace which they moved across the sky."

They were photographed by Liverpool Echo's head of images, Barrie Mills. "Apparently there have been quite a few sightings of these orange lights in recent years," said Mr Mills, "I was indoors watching the TV, with the lights on, so the light in the sky had to be quite bright for me to notice it at all." Another witness described three orange lights appearing to move slowly in formation from South East to North West.

One then remained stationary for several minutes before heading in the opposite direction. The Ministry of Defence said that although it is not unknown for military aircraft to fly across Merseyside, it would not speculate on the cause of the lights.

Mike Howell, air traffic services manager for Liverpool John Lennon Airport, said: "We have checked and are not able to associate the reports with any aircraft movements at Liverpool at those times."

A coastguard source speculated that any orange glow could be attributed to the annual Eta Aquarids meteor shower. Liverpool-born UFO expert John Rimmer said it was a "rule of thumb" that mysterious lights in the sky generally turn out to be floating Chinese lanterns.

MICHAEL SEES THE LIGHT

Ailsa Cranna—Salford Advertiser.
May 28, 2009

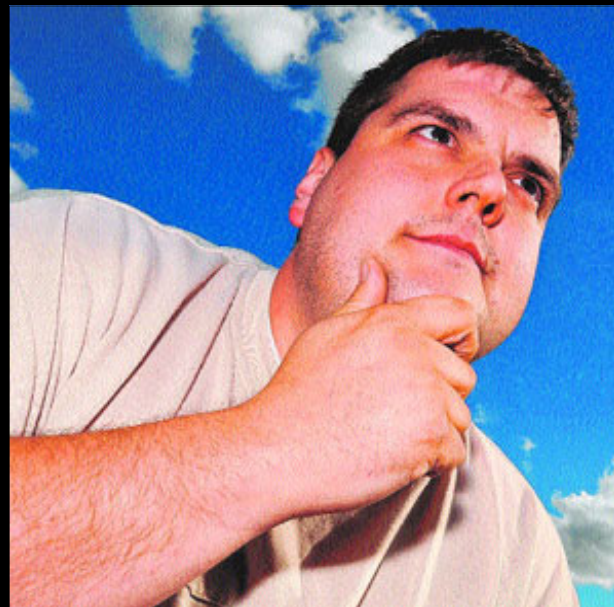
A FORMER sceptic believes he may have witnessed a UFO over the skies of Cadishead. Michael Holt, 35, from Allenby Road, Cadishead thinks he may be the latest in a long line of people who have seen the mystery flying objects in the area.

He said: "I was always very cynical about these claims but what I saw was definitely out of the ordinary, and when I went on the internet other people had posted their own sightings so there was definitely something out there.

"I had gone out at about 10.30pm to have a cigarette - I'm not allowed to smoke in the house - and saw something orange moving slowly across the sky, so I ran inside to get my camera.

"It wasn't a helicopter or plane - it wasn't the right shape for it. After hovering around for about a minute it shot off at amazing speed and seemed to disappear into a hole in the sky. One minute it was there and the next it had just disappeared."

Dave, a CCTV engineer, said he has always been sceptical about reports of UFOs in the past but that this 'sighting' has definitely got him thinking.



And when he went on the official website, www.uk-ufo.co.uk, he discovered that others had also seen 'something out there' over the last 12 months, bearing a similar description to his ball of orange light.

The most recent one was in the Salford Precinct area at 10.03pm on Wednesday, April 22 when a witness reported seeing 'a bright orange light, like a fire ball moving at a steady space.'

However, several days before, on Monday, April 20, in the Irlam area, at 11pm, another witness saw 'a stationary bright orange light in the sky.' Last August the Advertiser received several

reports of UFOs over the Irlam area, but the source later turned out to be a child's airborne toy.

A spokesperson for nearby City Airport, Manchester added: "We cannot speculate about what Mr Holt saw.

"However, we can confirm that on Sunday night, from 9.30pm to 10.15pm the police support helicopter, which is based here at Barton, was operational."

MICHAEL TOOK 17 PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE OBJECT AND IS SENDING THEM TO US.

Stunned onlookers watch as mysterious orange UFOs swoop across Britain's skies

By David Wilkes

Last updated at 1:25 AM on 04th June 2009

The Mail

Darting silently in formation, the mysterious glowing orbs light up the night sky.

Some say these orange lights even weave in between each other with the precision of a synchronised flying team from some far corner of the universe. Clusters of more than 100 have been spotted across Britain and even Holland, leaving onlookers with an eerie sense that, for all the mystifying beauty of the strange objects, they may have just witnessed an armada of invading UFOs.

The most recent sighting was on Sunday when they were seen in two locations, Merseyside and Lincoln. Days earlier a similar phenomenon was spotted over Cambridgeshire, where one witness claims each was as big as a house. The sightings have prompted defence officials to check their logs and sent UFO fans into orbits of excitement. Engineer Paul Slight, 54, took photos on his mobile phone of the strange objects hovering over Lincoln at 10.30pm while he was cycling home after a day out with friends. 'There were 26 of them at first, dodging and darting in between each other like they were playing a game,' he said.

'After that, seven more arrived and weaved through the crowd of lights like strange kinds of aircraft. After five minutes of moving around, they hung in the air for a second then shot off into the sky and disappeared.' A spokesman for nearby RAF Cranwell said the base was closed at the weekend so the lights could not be attributed to its aircraft. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Defence is examining claims that the Merseyside lights were connected to an exercise involving HMS Daring, docked in Liverpool.

The Ministry of Defence is examining claims that the Merseyside lights were connected to an exercise involving HMS Daring, docked in Liverpool.

An ex-military source claimed the lights were dropped by jets to simulate the path of a missile in order to test the warship's radar systems.



In Cambridgeshire, banker Scott Boswell, 37, said he saw more than 100 lights flying less than two miles above his home in Hinchbrook. The former soldier and experienced pilot said: 'I know they weren't aircraft – they were silent.'

'And I was a soldier for a decade so I could immediately rule out flares or weather balloons. I really have no idea what they were.'

On the same night, May 27, at around 11.30pm guesthouse owner Auberon Hedgecoe, 40, of nearby Huntingdon, also saw the lights. 'There was no sound,' he said.

'They were travelling 15 at a time and every six minutes more seemed to be coming over the horizon. They were not planes. They were not balloons.'

Each one was the size of a building.' Last night it emerged a woman has contacted her local newspaper to claim that the lights over Lincoln were Chinese lanterns – mini hot air balloons – set off at her wedding reception. 'They looked amazing, hope you all enjoyed the spectacle,' she said.

Nick Pope, the former head of the MoD's UFO Project, supported the Chinese lantern theory.

'I'm not disparaging the whole UFO phenomenon, but I'd say 99 per cent of UFO reports involving orange lights in the sky these days are attributable to these lanterns'



Unexplained: An image manufactured by Auberon Hedgecoe of how the lights appeared over a half an hour period above Huntingdon



The Hedgecoe family, from left Suzi, Barney, friend Zac and Auberon, saw 50 of the orange lights above Huntingdon and described them as being 'as big as a

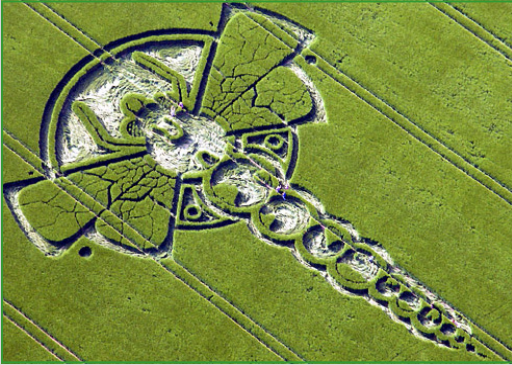
SO COULD THEY BE...

- **AIRCRAFT?** Observers say no because the lights are silent and have no navigation lights
- **FLARES?** Unlikely because the lights fly in formation rather than just soar then plummet
- **FIREWORKS?** Not if, as claimed, the lights have also been seen circling each other
- **MILITARY ACTIVITY?** MoD

investigating if Merseyside lights were part of training exercise

- **BALLOONS?** At least one witness says they were too big
- **UFOs?** Darting round each other suggests the lights have 'a form of intelligence', says UK-based UFO Investigation Unit
- **CHINESE LANTERNS?** Latest trend for outdoor parties

JUNE 2009 CROP CIRCLES



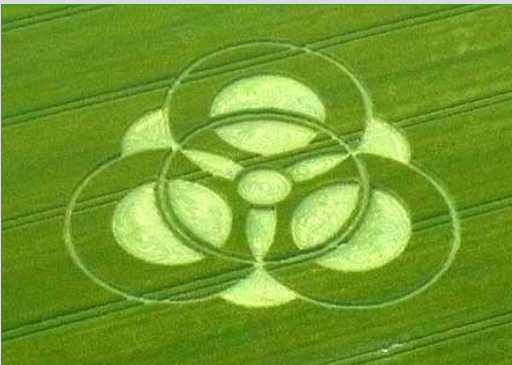
**Little London, nr Yatesbury, Wiltshire.
Reported 3rd June.**



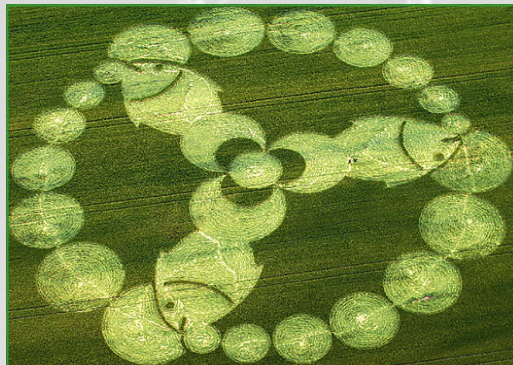
**Knoll Down, nr Beckhampton, Wiltshire.
Reported 1st June**



**Below Milk Hill, nr Alton Barnes,
Wiltshire. Reported 2nd June.**



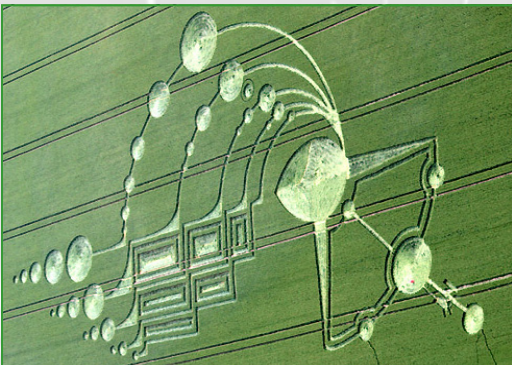
**New Farm, nr Chiseldon, Wiltshire.
Reported 5th June.**



**Bishop Cannings, nr Devizes, Wiltshire.
Reported 8th June.**



**Yatesbury, nr Cherhill, Wiltshire.
Reported 12th June.**



**Below Milk Hill (3), nr Alton Barnes,
Wiltshire. Reported 21st June.**



**Rough Hill, nr Winterbourne Bassett,
Wiltshire. Reported 24th June.**



**Knoll Down (2), nr Beckhampton,
Wiltshire. Reported 28th June.**

Glastonbury Symposium

Investigating Signs of Our Times

An annual three-day conference of mysteries, truth and new frontiers

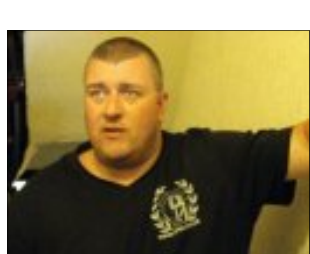
crop circles - environment - liberty issues - 2012, earth mysteries - new science - metaphysics, consciousness studies - UFOs - alternative health.

Friday-Sunday, 24-26 July 2009, Town Hall, Glastonbury.

Crop Circle Tours on Thursday 23rd July. Online booking opens in February 2009. Now in its nineteenth year

One of Britain's longest-established and acclaimed 'alternative' conferences.

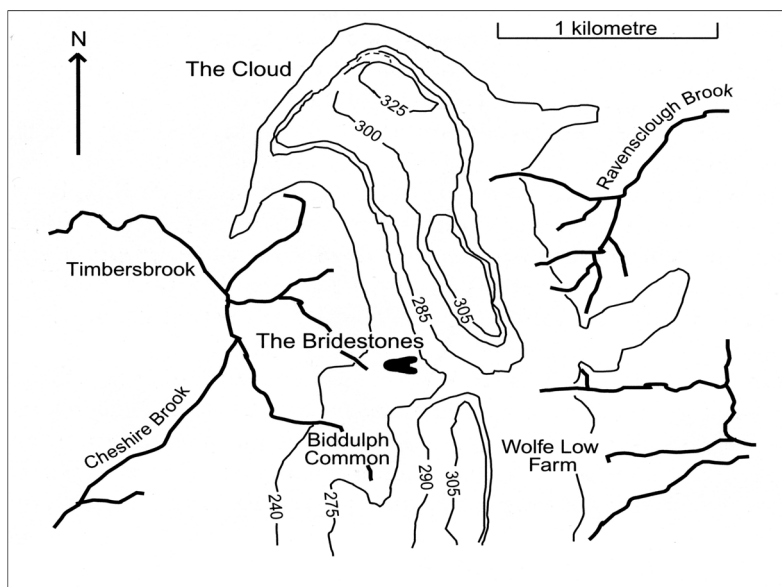
FOR DETAILS OF SPEAKERS PLEASE VISIT: www.glastonburysymposium.co.uk



Bridestones Revisited.

By Dave Sadler.

Often described as an 'outlier of the Neolithic monuments of the White Peak', The Bridestones, lying along the line of the Cheshire / Staffordshire border is undoubtedly Cheshire's most impressive and well-known ancient monument. The remains of this once-great chambered tomb lies between the hillside of Bosley Cloud and Wolfe Lowe close to the east Cheshire town of Congleton. Located at 250m (820ft) above sea level, the monument lies on the western crest of a pass running in a north-south line at the foot of the Pennines and has spectacular views across the Cheshire Plain.



The few remaining stones of this once great monument still stand along the line of the Cheshire / Staffordshire border between the hillside of Bosley Cloud and Wolfe Lowe at Dial lane between the A527 and A523. The site is very different to its original structure; many tons of stone were taken from the cairn by the builders of the nearby turnpike road in 1764. Other stones were used to build the adjacent house and farm, and more were recycled into an ornamental garden in Tunstall Park. However, before this large scale ransacking occurred, it appears that the Bridestones was an incredible monument, perhaps unique in England. Evidence from a variety of sources indicates that it was a chambered tomb of massive proportions with a paved crescent forecourt and a port-holed stone dividing the main chamber. The complex was supposedly 110 metres in length with the horned cairn being 11 metres wide. A report from the 18th Century notes that in addition to the main chamber which still stands today, a further two subsidiary ones were located at a distance of 55 yards. No traces of these have ever been found, but there is much debate as to whether they are located east of the surviving chamber, or west. The latter seems more likely as they were probably covered by the same cairn as the main chamber. Chambered tombs with crescent forecourts are normally found in the Clyde region of Scotland (Clyde Cairns) such as at Cairnholly and Carn Ban as well as in Ireland (Court Cairns).

No other examples are known from the English mainland, the closest being Casthal yn Ard on the Isle of Man. In addition to the paved forecourt, the Bridestones also has another interesting feature in the port-holed stone, a characteristic usually associated with chambered tombs from the Cotswold Severn Region. In the case of the Bridestones it divided the two compartments of the main chamber – at 191 / 2 inches; the hole would have been large enough for a person to crawl through. A stone of identical proportions known as The Devil's Ring & Finger lies in Staffordshire. So the question is why was such an unusual monument built here? Cheshire is not a county known for its Neolithic architecture. In fact apart from a few long barrows, the Bridestones are the only authentic Neolithic monument.

The site has suffered much in the last two centuries. As well as the thousands of tons of stone that have been taken from the cairn, a number of the standing stones from the 'circle' forming the forecourt have also been removed. During the 19th Century a picnicker's bonfire led to the side slabs of the main chamber and the port-holed stone being seriously cracked. In fact the top half of the port-holed stone has long since disappeared. To add insult to injury a local newspaper article records that 'many years ago, an engineer engaged in the cutting of the Manchester Ship Canal, visiting the spot actually used one of the biggest monoliths for the purpose of carrying out a demonstration with a detonator, as a result of which the great stone was broken off close to the ground'. Luckily the damage was not beyond repair as this portal stone was cemented back together during excavations in the 1930s. In recent years there has been a long running debate as to which way the cairn at The Bridestones extended. A myth, that it ran east of the chamber into the grounds of the neighbouring Bridestones House rather than west down the slope, was started by Mr Bertram B. Simms in an article in the Congleton Chronicle in 1936. Simms took the early references and re-interpreted the monument:



The Bridestones chamber was originally capped with a huge slab. The one monolith is all that remains of a pear shaped arrangement of similar pillars, some 12ft. high, which, interspaced with stones as walls and capped with slabs formed another chamber, hall or chapel,

approximately 30ft x 45ft, where fire ritual ceremonies were performed to sever the spirit of the dead chief from earthly things.' The stones that have survived are now fenced off in the corner of a field, surrounded by yews, rhododendrons and conifers and overgrown with bracken in the summer. The site is in desperate need of attention and recognition, and from a personal and UPIA point of view, the quarry to the rear of the site employs several large, noisy and angry Rottweillers devaluing the privacy and peacefulness of the site. Many visitors also leave behind rubbish and dog dirt.

These qualms aside, the Bridestones site occupies a magnificent spot; its beauty and occasional tranquillity provide many visitors an escape from modern day hustle and bustle. The UPIA will be penning a letter to the National Monuments Authority, expressing our concerns of the sites state, and hopefully its future protection. Bizarrely this is a site that many local people know of but do not know of its enticing history or exact whereabouts, and have never actually visited.

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY

A ghostly sighting at the Bridestones. A dark shadowy figure has been witnessed within the paddock containing the monument. A recent report in the Congleton chronicle from a local lady reported witnessing, with her partner, a druidic figure dressed in white on the road near to the site.



Doug Pickford, of the Staffordshire Green Dragon UFO Group, reports that on 16th June 1991 "Bill", a business acquaintance, was returning home from Chester to Leek and stopped near Rushton, north of Rudyard Lake to relieve himself. He had drunk several cups of coffee in Chester, which at one thirty a.m. were producing the expected diuretic effect. He noticed that he was close by the Bridestones, a neolithic chamber with standing stones he could see clearly in the midsummer night. Above the stones he was astonished to see light like a giant golden torch which illuminated the whole area, shooting out a shower of bright sparks. Uninterested in either archaeology or the paranormal, Bill ran back to his car and tried to start it, but in vain.

Then he saw that the light from the stones, in the form of a golden ball, was moving directly towards him. Paralysed either by fright or some unknown force, Bill found the intense light was hurting his eyes and at this point became unconscious. When he finally came round he found himself lying outstretched on the ground beneath a group of trees he later found to be some 600 feet from the road where his car still stood. The ball of light had vanished, but he found he was stripped to the waist and minus his shoes. As he got to his feet, he brushed down his trousers and found them emitting a shower of sparks as though charged with static electricity. He staggered to his car and found it unlocked, the key still in the ignition, and in a bundle beside it were his shirt and shoes! As he dressed, he noticed that they were quite warm. He got into the car and it started up at once. As he drove off at some speed he noticed the time on the dashboard clock - 3.05 a.m. One and half hours had unaccountably disappeared. On arrival home he told his wife he had been in a motor accident and it was some days before he told her the truth. He told no one else, until finally he decided to consult Doug Pickford, a long standing acquaintance whose discretion he knew he could trust.

UPIA'S CURRENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE BRIDESTONES, CONGLETON, CHESHIRE

Due to the interest, history and alleged reports of paranormal phenomena at the Bridestones site in Cheshire, several UPIA members showed a keen interest in further looking at the location. At a recent meeting we discussed the issue, and decided on a date to visit and conduct on site research.

The site is of huge importance historically and archaeologically, but several witnesses have told of their experiences, especially those claiming to have witnessed ghost like apparitions. The reports have led to our looking at primary areas. Visual activity seems to be the most reported incidents, no audio events have been reported, therefore the UPIA deemed that the site be monitored via visual methods, with only camcorder audio footage needed to cover the audio range. Several other examinations have proved inconclusive, EMF monitoring have only given signs of natural earth energies, at the site and the surrounding locality. Temperature varies with weather conditions, as do humidity and air pressure. The location has also been examined for negative ion content; this again has given no evidence of any other result than is the normal. Currently 3 visits have been made by the UPIA, using different investigators at different times of the day, more are scheduled for the coming months, to blanket monitor the site at different times of the year and in different conditions. Our first visit took place on Saturday 25th February, in the late evening time, Conditions were not the best, but due to the remnants of the snow, and the cold night air, gave us the opportunity to look for natural occurring phenomena, i.e. vented steam, marsh gases and exhaust fumes, from passing cars. This proved very interesting, especially the wispy smoke left by passing cars, visual footage was taken both still and via camcorder, this however showed nothing in the way of paranormal phenomena.

Sunday 12th March, A morning visit was paid to the site deemed important due again to time and conditions, all recordings were again taken, and tallied with original results. A visual log was also taken of the roadways around the site, for drains and areas where at different times; things may be witnessed and misinterpreted by the witness. No Photographs or video gave results again. Monday 20th March, a visit was paid near sunset, only camcorder footage was taken at this short one hour site visit, when replayed, neither audio nor visual phenomena were found.

Incidentally, two members of the UPIA have reported personal phenomena at the visits to the site, these reports have suggested feeling weak and sick at the site, although included in UPIA reports, these occurrences are personal, and may be due to physiological or psychological matters, the persons involved in these events agree to the nature of this explanation, and as they can not be monitored must be discounted.



UPDATE

Saturday 22nd April 2006.

Eleven UPIA investigators visited the site, for a brief on site visit and as a training event. The team were split into two groups, one based on the site itself, and the second at the entrance on Dial lane, each were in communication via radios. As on previous visit's the event was recorded on high definition night vision camcorder, covering both audio and visual elements, the viewing of this coverage again gave no results, but was able to record individuals other recording methods. During part one of the event, one of the members was asked to take and record Electro Magnetic Frequency measurements, using a standard EMF monitor. The individual was able to record a low fluctuating measurement at an area external of the tomb, this was duly noted. No other information was received via any other person during this session. Part two, led to the groups changing locations, and again being interrupted by the Land adjacent baring Rottweilers. One member of the team noted the feeling of breathing difficulties and heart palpitations, following the event when questioned, she believed this to be due to the taking part in the event, and for the first time being in nighttimes conditions,

her expectation, as of some of her colleagues was very high. His same individual also recorded her Gauss meter EMF unit, gave several beeps, a sign of EMF present, but was unable to recreate the event, within the cairn itself, again this was noted. At 2130hrs the event came to a close, members continued to take readings, as others left the land. At this point, a separate Gauss Meter began to emit "a drum beat" emission, again a signature of EMF present, members returned to the site, and two persons entered the chamber itself with 4 EMF units, at this point we received readings from 2x Gauss meters, an older multi axis unit and single axis unit, the Gauss meter showed a recording of between 4 and 7 miligauss, Multi axis device 2 on the light scale and the single axis, set on EMF and x1 was pulsating between 3 and 5 for some time, batteries were newly bought and fitted to all units, but the single axis unit power drained almost immediately.

Monday 24th April 2006.

A quick return to the site was paid by Co-Ordinators Dave Sadler and Paul Reeves to further investigate the EMF fluctuations. During this visit, Paul with a fully charged Digital camera took several shots of the area, at this point he registered his camera batteries and rapidly drained, on leaving the site several minutes later, the battery was at full power, again could this be due to EMF? or did temperature play a role? No additional information could be gleaned, although the area's terrain and other viewing were able to add some information. It was noticed on both 22nd and 24th's visit's a large amount of gnats appeared surrounding the firs and rhododendrons at the site, it has been reported in other past cases countrywide the possibility of large formations of these insects, can cause a cloud effect, giving the misinterpretation of shapes, This may, or may not point to similar sightings at this site.



CURRENT RESEARCH AND THEORIES

Following the two most recent visits to the site, research has begun in earnest, we were lucky to have recorded EMF fluctuations, and due to this began to look at the environment and geology of the local area, to see if natural Earth energies maybe the reason for our results.

A local geological map was referred to, and luckily we were able to ascertain several possibilities which may explain our results.

1. There are two geological fault lines within 1 mile of the site, geological faults are scientifically proven to produce electrical discharges during seismic activity, this is due to the friction caused in certain rock types. In certain areas of paranormal activity, this has been reported as lights in the sky, a dispersion of Electromagnetic energy into the atmosphere (known as Earthlights) caused by the frictional rubbing of Teutonic plates. The two faults are known as the Red rock fault, and the Mow Cop fault, a branch of which runs directly through the field adjacent to the Bridestones.

2. The site geological content is that of a Carboniferous material, a base of iron ore, and a known conductor of electrical energy.

3. The site sits exactly on the watershed between rivers draining to the Mersey/Irish Sea and the Trent/North Sea. Again a known conductor.

4. The Buildings to the rear of the site belong to a quarry, unnatural methods of quarrying may have caused additional faults to occur around the site, again, seismic activity may cause the electrical build up from this area.

5. Finally, a vein of copper exists at the location, passing through also both geological fault lines, this may automatically act as a conduit to the site.

Additional to these theories, a reported white figure has also been witnessed on occasion, in experiments and via research into geology; we have found several possible and plausible explanations for the events.

1. Monitoring exhaust emissions on passing vehicles during periods of cold weather left a pale smoky form in mid air, taking nearly 15 seconds to evaporate.

2. Several road grids can be found along dial lane, warm air or steam has again been noticed to escape into the road area.

3. With regards to the Geological fault occurring in the adjacent field, the friction occurring in the fault may cause a heating of the fields moisture, causing a mist or “ marsh gas” to appear.



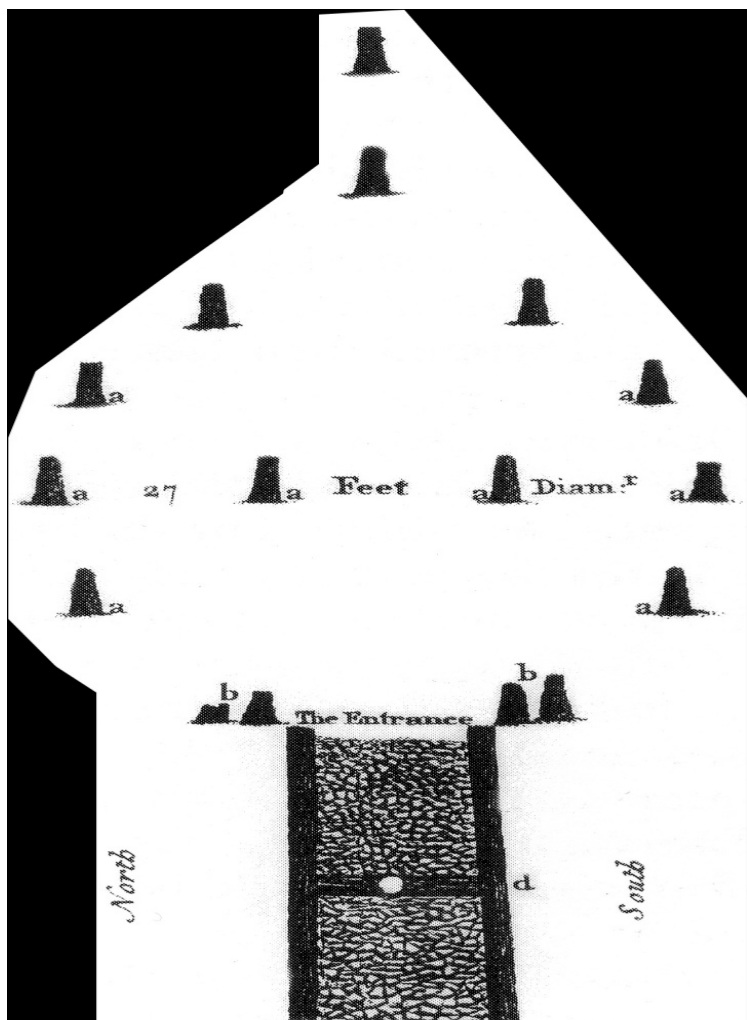
We have been lucky to have the assistance of several national and independent bodies regarding our findings who have assisted greatly with our theorising; we would also like to thank them for their contribution:

Professor Roger Musson of the British Geological survey team. Professor Peter Styles of Keel University geological Department. Steve Parsons, Geologist and Para.Science. Steve Mera BSc. Electrical Engineering and Manchester's Association of Paranormal Investigation and Training. Local author Doug Pickford. Author and leading expert on ancient sites and Earthlights Paul Deveraux.

We are also currently awaiting replies from several additional independent bodies to collaborate all information and results. Therefore this sites electrical energy may therefore be governed by natural geology and seismic activity. This may not sound as though EMF is a sole cause, for that we must look at Electrical Hypersensitivity, a not so well known but modern and common medical condition.

WHAT IS ELECTRICAL HYPERSENSITIVITY?

Known variously as electromagnetic hypersensitivity, electrical sensitivity, electro sensitivity, and a host of other terms, electromagnetic sensitivity syndrome (ES) is a



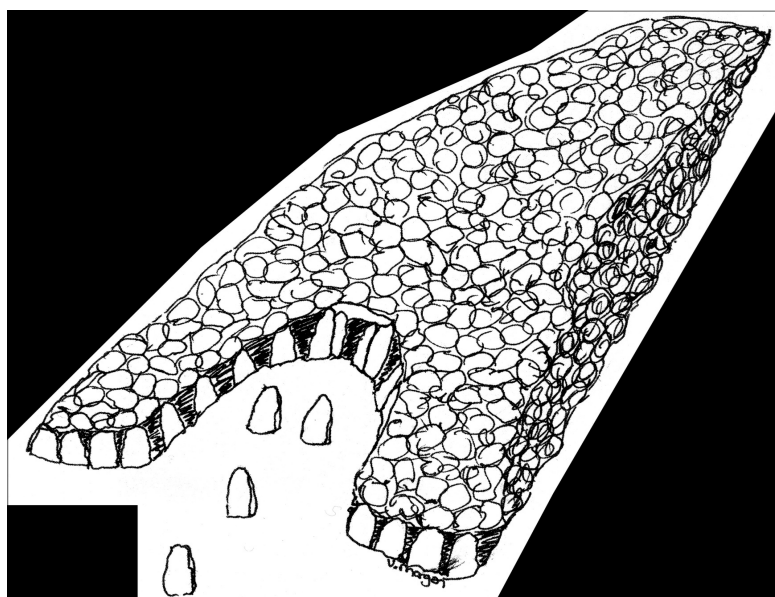
physiological disorder characterized by symptoms directly brought on by exposure to electromagnetic fields. ES is a serious public health concern and the incidence of ES is growing.

The typical Britain is in nearly continuous interaction with stimulation from across the electromagnetic spectrum. The density of radio waves around us is now 100 million to 200 million times the natural level reaching us from the sun. There is increasing awareness that humans are responding to electromagnetic radiation in a variety of ways.

EMFs are invisible fields of energy produced whenever electric current is flowing. EMFs are biologically active and a great deal of information exists regarding the health effects of EMF stimulation on animals, including humans. Evidence has been coming to light that EMF exposure may cause many more problems than had been contemplated and this includes the phenomenon of electromagnetic hypersensitivity.

ES is a disorder whereby neurological and allergic-type symptoms are brought on through exposure to electromagnetic fields. Many individuals with ES are primarily sensitive to certain frequencies of EMF and there is a wide range in the degree of sensitivity exhibited by those affected.

The incidence of electro sensitivity is growing. Many persons experience an abrupt onset of symptoms following exposure to a novel EMF such as fields associated with a new computer or with new fluorescent lights. Symptoms often are not immediately recognized by the injured as having been brought on by EMF exposure. Onset of ES has also been reported following chemical exposure. More research on this phenomenon is urgently needed in order to understand the mechanism behind it. It appears, however, that there is some direct effect upon the nervous system and that the immune system is likely also involved in this disorder. Symptoms may include but are not limited to: Headache, eye irritation, dizziness, nausea, skin rash, facial



swelling, weakness, fatigue, pain in joints and/or muscles, buzzing/ringing in ears, skin numbness, abdominal pressure and pain, breathing difficulty, and irregular heartbeat.

Additional symptoms have been reported in some individuals such as paralysis, balance problems, body and/or muscle spasms, convulsions, confusion, depression, difficulty in concentrating, seizures, sleep disturbances, and memory difficulties. Some people may experience and report 'paranormal like' phenomena resulting from their exposure to a high amplitude domestic Electro Magnetic Field. Prolonged exposure to the high amplitude EMF may increase the amount of reported paranormal activity. Additional factors may be responsible for the actual nature of the reported phenomena including an individual's susceptibility, exposure time and socio-cultural beliefs".

The presence of an EMF of sufficiently high amplitude in combination with weaker complexities within the overall EMF signal may increase the likelihood of otherwise unaffected people reporting experiences which they then interpret as being paranormal in origin. As the overall amplitude of the EMF increases a greater number of people will become susceptible to having such experiences. This hypothesis regarding ES is based upon the research conducted by Professor Michael Persinger. It indicates a direct link between the domestic EMF's and the incidents of reported paranormal phenomena. He suggests "that transient, complex temporal patterns of power-frequency magnetic fields generated by less than optimal grounding in dwellings and telluric currents may be sufficient to evoke experiences in the brains of sensitive individuals".

The Bridestones site is obviously of local and national interest, The UPIA's involvement began as a general observation due to sightings of paranormal activity. Fortunately we have been able to progress onto a much different trail of thought, and may quite possibly have found a solution to some of the events witnessed at the site, presently our idea's are theories, but we have the opportunity to test these with the assistance of other organisations and officialdoms. We would still like to find out more concerning group or individuals reports, these will be collated and added to a new database created for this investigation. As well as ghostly sightings there are also reports of possible psychic events, UFOlogical reports, time slip events, profound human experiences and natural earth mysteries.

UPDATE MAY 2009

The UPIA again revisited the Bridestones site, but this time we were accompanied by a television crew filming for an overseas TV Show. On this occasion UPIA set up new pieces of equipment that consisted of electronic software that is capable of recording all fields of sound. This can be monitored through a spectrum analyser and later be enhanced. A series of recordings were taken which the UPIA are currently going through. During the night no unusual EMF or Microwave Energy was discovered, however there was a report of small lights that appeared above one of the stones. The UPIA will continue to monitor the site. Having access to the seismic activity database may also be helpful in discovering further anomalies...

Ghostly visit to shopping mall

The Sun : June 4th 2009.

EXTRAORDINARY CCTV footage has captured the ghost of a small child darting across a busy shopping centre. The shadowy spirit glides in between oblivious shoppers in the eerily clear video. The 2ft tall floating phantom figure appears in the bottom right of the screen after a male shopper exits a room to the top left. It makes its way across the busy concourse and seems to head for the same door the man has just passed through. The amazing 36-second tape was taken in a shopping mall in Chile, South America, and surfaced on the internet today. It is alleged that the tiny greyish phenomenon is the ghost of a small local boy.

UPIA Conclusion – Clearly this is an insect on the camera lens...



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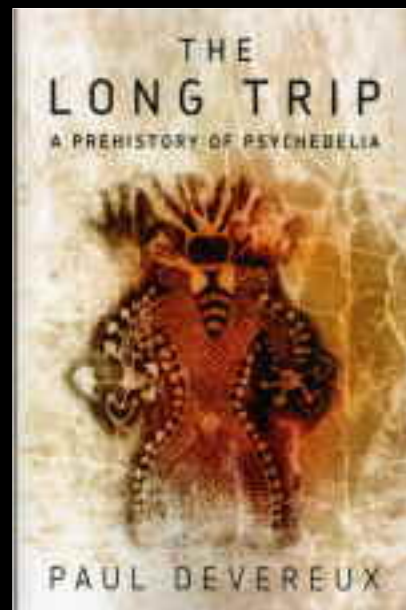
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REVIEWS OF THE MONTH

The Long Trip—A Prehistory of Psychedelia. Using a slew of disciplines including archaeology, anthropology, linguistics, ethnobotany, biology and other fields - The Long Trip strips bare the evidence for the psychedelic experiences of various prehistoric societies and ancient, traditional cultures. It is probably the most comprehensive single volume to look at the use of mind-altering drugs, or entheogens, for ritual and shamanistic purposes throughout humanity's long story, while casting withering sidelong glances at our own times now.

As Paul Devereux points out, our modern mainstream culture is eccentric in its refusal to integrate the profound experiences offered by these natural substances into its own spiritual life. The Long Trip is a fascinating study of an influential yet still under-explored experience, and is revelatory in its findings, invaluable in its research, and important in its attempts to address many deep questions confronting our culture.



“Devereux’s main concern is not the modern but the archaic ... [but] Devereux delightfully digresses into the many ways in which interest in psychedelics has remained a distinct – if often subterranean – thread in society ... A genuinely radical book, The Long Trip draws deep from the well of history to back up its speculations.” Fortean Times.

“Devereux presents a broad range of archaeological, ethnobotanical, and pharmacological information about psychedelics in clear, very readable English...” Shaman’s Drum...

Based on a chilling true story, Lionsgate's THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT charts one family's terrifying, real-life encounter with the dark forces of the supernatural. When the Campbell family moves to upstate Connecticut, they soon learn that their charming Victorian home has a disturbing history: not only was the house a transformed funeral parlor where inconceivable acts occurred, but the owner's clairvoyant son Jonah served as a demonic messenger, providing a gateway for spiritual entities to crossover. Now unspeakable terror awaits, when Jonah, the boy who communicated with the powerful dark forces of the supernatural, returns to unleash a new kind of horror on the innocent and unsuspecting family.

REAL STORY OF THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT

In 1987, a particularly nightmarish haunting occurred in Southington, Connecticut, to a family that had just moved in to a long empty house on Meriden Avenue. Soon after settling in, the family discovered a small graveyard in back, an embalming chamber in the basement, and drawers full of creepy corpse photographs: their new house had previously been a Funeral Home dating back to the 1920s.

Almost immediately, the family began to experience paranormal activity – strange sounds, changes in temperature, and the appearance of mysterious figures. As the family's lives and sanity were pushed to the edge, the mother contacted Ed and Lorraine Warren for help. Famous demonologists and paranormal investigators, the Warren's had investigated the famed Amityville Horror case, and were the founders of the New England Society for Psychic Research.

Through their help, the family was able to uncover the terrible secrets lurking in the house and to confront the most shocking evil spirits ever seen in an American haunting.



Weird '09, to be held in August 2009, is Wiltshire's premier UFO and paranormal conference. We are proud to present a stellar line-up of distinguished speakers, from the UK and the US, who will share with you their expertise and experiences in ufology, the paranormal and crop circle research.

Speaking live will be Nick Pope, Paul Devereux, Joe McGonagle, Dr. Peter McCue, USA Crop Circle Researcher Nancy Talbot, Mike Oram, Kevin Goodman, Hayley Stevens, Nick Redfern, Brian Allan, and SPI USA. Recorded interviews with Dr. David Clarke and Steve Dewey will also be shown.

Weird '09 will be held over two days at the Athenaeum Theatre in the small town of Warminster, once the UFO capital of the UK, and possibly the world, with over 5000 sightings reported over a ten year period.

Warminster nestles in the beautiful rural countryside of Wiltshire, within easy striking distance of important ancient monuments, including Stonehenge, Avebury, West Kennet Long Barrow and Silbury Hill. The impressive Iron Age hill forts of Battlesbury and Scratchbury are also close by.

You will also be able to join the annual Warminster Sky Watch at the fabled Cradle Hill and participate in a paranormal investigation

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MONTH!

Amanda sent in this wonderful ghost picture of a baby on grandpa's chair. It's an older photo that was re-photographed with a camera instead of copying it via scanner (to get it on her computer). Please disregard the white flash on the baby's legs, but consider the human form or apparition seemingly holding the infant:



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It is not compulsory to sit the BITC examination paper, however, it is necessary if students wish to become active researchers or investigators. If students have any difficulties they can contact MAPIT via E-Mail or Telephone during office hours. Assistance can also be obtained from our extensive web site. The Examination paper consists of 100 questions regarding details found within the course material. Students will require 75% of the questions correct to pass the examination. The BITC course consists of 20 modules. At the end of each module, students will find a question sheet. All question sheets must be completed and returned together to MAPIT Head Office for marking. The BITC Course can be sat by students of any age and need no previous knowledge. MAPIT also run a continuation course such as the Advanced (AITC) course.

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